

Parks Meeting

Wednesday, April 28

Meeting Came to Order: 7:03 PM

Jim Lovejoy – Chairperson

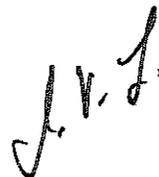
Roll Call:

Kathy Rhoads – tardy (unexcused)

Jim Thigpen – absent due to illness

Superintendent's Report:

- 1 Mowed grass and trimmed in the following areas:
 - o All parks
 - o Council Property
 - o Library
 - o Village Right –Of-Ways
- 2 Cut down several dead, bug infested trees at Cy Hewit Park.
- 3 Spent 7 days cleaning out Red Oak area of invasive plants and removing softwood saplings. Also accomplished the following:
 - o Leveled dirt areas
 - o Mowed grass with brush hog.
- 4 Sanded down and stain sealed all the picnic tables owned by the Village of Seville. Several reasons for the need for this work including:
 - o Graffiti
 - o Safety
- 5 Trimmed trees
- 6 Cleaned up all the flower beds – more needs to be done and work on this will continue throughout the summer. Mulch was applied at Stan Hope.
- 7 Put new kiosks in Cy Hewit and Leohr



- o Fiber matting applied to keep down weeds.
- 8 Weekly clean up of the trails
 - 9 Paid all bills.

Superintendent's Maintenance Report

Maintenance for the Parks was routine.

The Park maintenance report is included in Streets Department Maintenance report. This will be made available as a document attached to these notes. It is also available by request as a public document.

Old Business:

Jim Lovejoy introduced Bonnie Gordon, representative from Run for the Trails, who is making a presentation on the trails in the Village of Seville.

Bonnie displayed a map, which is not available as part of these notes.

Explained how the trail began.

Planning began in 2000 for Leohr Park. EG&G was the firm that designed the trails and Leohr Park.

Questionnaire sent to the Village Residents. Most of the responses involved the need for walking and bike trails, a pond, and a large response that no more ball fields were needed at that time. The trail was planned to coincide with the feedback from the residents. The Park was phase 1.

The trail was phase 2.

Phase 3 – not yet started – Plan is to take the trail North – crossing the Chippewa Creek – follow the east side of the tracks – go behind Ohio Wholesale per easement and turn at Greenwich Road and extend to the Superior Diesel Company – turn North. Charles Marshall agreed to take the trail around his Industrial Park. Big picture is hook the trail into Hubbard Valley Park. Per Bonnie other options were reviewed, this seemed the best course.

Run for the Trails began in 2001 – Paul Hoskinson asked if Bonnie and Dennis would be interested in coordinating a race to benefit the trail in the park. Handled through Seek organization.

In the third year of the race there were some issues with auxiliary accounts. So it was decided to run all Run for the Trails money through the Village.

In 2008 Bonnie wasn't sure she would run for Council and there was a concern that goals may change. Since the money was specifically raised to build or maintain the park e.g. expansion, seal the trail when needed. Run for the Trails (RFTT) decided to create a non-profit to allow them to maintain the RFTT money and apply for grants not available to government entities. If RFTT dissolves the money must be turned over to the Village. They are hoping that partnership between the Village of Seville and RFTT is

positive and productive.

Medina County Hike Bike Trail – County has plan (shown by blue line) the Village trail plans are included in this plan as Bonnie sat on that commission.

Barb Schwartz asked to clarify a couple of items. One, the money that is in the Trail fund can only be used for trail related expenses and for no other purpose. There should not be any concern that the money raised and donated for the trail will be used for any other purpose. Barb Schwartz, Financial Chairperson and Council Person for the Village, stated she has spoken with Ted Lesiak, Village Solicitor, Joe Doty, Solicitor for Run for the Trails, and Jim Carricik, Fiscal Officer for the Village of Seville and this should not be a concern for anyone.

Barb Schwartz's 2nd clarification – With the establishment of a 501C3 status it provides a tax exempt status making contributions tax deductible.

Per Barb Schwartz, since RFTT decided to keep the funds last year it has messed up the insurance. She had a conversation with Jeff Plummer and she has an email stating that if Run for the Trails does not donate the money to the Village they will need to get their own insurance. The rider provided on the Village Insurance, free of charge, was because the money was given to the village and all expenses ran through the village, who provided money back to RFTT for postage, t-shirts and other expenses. When RFTT made the decision to not donate the funds, which their choice, it invalidated the insurance. She asked Jeff what RFTT was suppose to do, she explained that Jeff Plummer said they has several options:

1. Apply for their own insurance, or
2. Account for and donate the money raised last year as it has been done all along

Barb stated she hoped she had relieved some of RFTT concerns that the money would go to pay an electric bill, that the Village won't pay for postage, or that the money wouldn't be used for the trails which Barb stated is nonsense; it has never happened that way in the past and it won't happen in the future.

Barb stated that the RFTT Committee had a choice to make because Jeff Plummer says if they don't donate the funds then the insurance will not be valid.

Bonnie Gordon stated that she had received information that the insurance was valid.

Barb referred Bonnie to the statement on the Public Entities Pool of Ohio Certificate of Benefits where it states, "Additional party only with regard to fundraising activities on behalf of the member's Park Department."

Bonnie Gordon stated that Run for the Trails is fundraising on behalf of the member's park department.

Parks Committee Member, and Council Person Kathy Rhoads stated that she did not believe that RFTT needed to give every dollar they raised immediately to the Village of Seville as long as they are raising money for the Village and no other entities at least some part of that money is given to the Village then

the rider is in-force.

Schwartz stated that is not what the email say. It says that if RFTT does not donate the money then they have to get their own insurance.

Rhoads stated that that statement does not reflect her understanding and perhaps we need to go back to Jeff Plummer and ask for additional clarification

Schwartz asked Rhoads if she had explained to Jeff Plummer that RFTT had stopped donating.

Rhoads replied she had explained that RFTT had not donated any funds from the race last year. Rhoads stated that she had the understanding that as long as RFTT was raising funds for the Village and at least some of the money was being donated that the rider was fine. Rhoads stated she had not asked specifically if the donations had to occur regularly or if it had to be all of the money. Rhoads went on to say that she thought it was a decision the Village could make if they wished to recognize that RFTT was raising money for the Village. The choice

Schwartz disagreed, we are not the insurance company – they are and it is up to them to set the parameters for the insurance.

Rhoads stated that it was not going to be possible to settle this tonight as she and Barb appeared to each have part of the story.

Gordon stated the RFTT mission statement and membership card has the following, "The object of the Run for the Trails, Inc. shall be for the purpose of raising funds for the development, building and maintenance of hiking, biking and running trails throughout Seville, Ohio. The goal of the Run for the Trails, Inc. is to establish a trail network to allow residents to move safely and freely to and from all areas of Seville Ohio.

Schwartz stated that she was not disputing any of that, she is not the agent or the insurance company— it is not her call it is theirs. She just gave them the information and that is what they told her.

Rhoads stated that she could call the agent again or she and Barb could talk with the agent together. Rhoads stated she felt the matter could easily be resolved.

Barb stated she didn't want the Trails Committee to believe they have insurance and they don't and she didn't want it to go any further in case someone had an accident .

Rhoads asked Schwartz, if the rider that was just written when she spoke with Jeff Plummer had been negated or is it still in existence?

Schwartz said that there are about 15 copies of this floating around. She had shared it with Jeff Plummer and explained that RFTT had not donated since 2008 – he contacted the carrier and this is the answer he was given.

Schwartz stated she was not there to be the judge or the jury. She just wanted to share the facts.

Rhoads stated that she had provided different information to RFTT and recommended getting additional clarification from the Village Insurance agent. She believes this question can be easily resolved.

Schwartz stated that since she had contacted the insurance agent and Rhoads had contacted the insurance agent and both gave him the same information; she sees no reason we should have been given different answers. She thought Rhoads would have already known.

Rhoads stated she did not know. Rhoads stated she talked with Jeff Plummer about whether or not RFTT was raising money for the Village of Seville, for the trails which they are.

Schwartz stated she doesn't believe they count it unless it is actually donated. She believes this is the lynch pin.

Rhoads stated she thinks we may be trying to put something in place and set a schedule for the donations. If that is what we want to do as the Village of Seville, then we can do that.

Schwartz says she just wants it done correctly

Roger Kilgore, Council Person and Parks Committee Member stated that we don't want any liability for the Village – if the insurance doesn't cover RRFT then we would be liable.

Rhoads stated she understood and just wanted to get additional clarification.

Schwartz stated she had already done that and had it in writing, but if Rhoads wanted to get a different answer go ahead.

Rhoads stated she didn't want a different answer she wanted the right answer.

Rhoads asked how did we want the donations to occur. Do they need to donate the funds by every January?

Schwartz stated that was not up to her. The answer might be to do it the way it was done in the past.

Bonnie said that it was done that way in the past because fundraising had gone through SEEK. And later it was run directly through the Village.

Gordon, also stated that if the money is kept in the 501 c 3 account it can earn interest, which it can't do if it is in the Village account. The interest would not be applied to the trail funds.

Rhoads asked if RFTT could use the money raised for anything else but Seville trails.

Gordon stated that at this time no because of the way the By-laws for the RRFT are written. The money was raised for that purpose. It could change in the future if the mission statement was changed, but at this time no.

Schwartz said we could say anything we want but if the insurance company says they must donate the money then they have to.

Rhoads pointed out the donations will come – RFTT can't do anything else with the money but donate it for the Trails.

Bonnie Gordon asked the Parks Committee to let her know the final answer.

Rhoads stated that she felt that based on the discussion RFTT should acquire their own insurance.

Schwartz stated that was their choice.

Rhoads went on to say that if she were in the RFTT shoes she would not want the race to get any closer without acquiring insurance.

Gordon stated RRFT is planning to donate the money at some point with the goal of trail expansion.

<additional discussion rehashing the same topics occurred – please reference the audio for any additional detail.>

Jim Lovejoy restated that it is the recommendation of the Parks Committee that Run for the Trails pursue getting their own insurance.

<additional discussion reviewing the same discussion points– please reference the audio for any additional detail.>

Jim Lovejoy asked if the discussion regarding Run for the Trails was complete and moved on to other topics.

Old Business Continues:

Jon Sobczak continues research on mosquito spraying. Jon had talked with the gentleman who will do the spraying.

Sobczak stated we will try 5 applications throughout the Village – he will designate the path that will be taken to maximize effectiveness. Cost is \$540 per application for parks and village. Applications will start the 3rd week of May. Agreement is verbal at this time, the contract will be given to Carol.

Jon will pursue certifications for pond and water drops later in the fall. The donuts used in the past were not effective. Going forward we will utilize ingots – better for killing the larvae.

Lovejoy asked for a report on the Girls Scout troop 1065 request to do something in the Village of Seville as their Silver Project. Rhoads provided the troop with various options including flower beds in front of Cy Hewit; or painting playground equipment or pavilions under the supervision of the Parks Superintendent. They will discuss the options and get back to us.

Discussion about the entrance to Cy Hewit ensued. In the past, there was a plan to redo the front of Cy Hewitt with stone. In the meantime, Jon is planning to take off the top layer of ties, and grade. This will eliminate the ties that are wobbly. Then at some point, when finances or donations permit, we can redo the entrance way. Bonnie Gordon said she has a copy of the plan and can share it if it would be easier

then to locate it in the Village files.

Parks committee agreed to remove the railroad ties and grade.

Banter about the rocks in the Red Oak area. <listen to audio for details> No decisions resulted from this discussion. There is an amazing amount of stone left in that area. The property was once owned by the Conway family. Then Ohio Wholesale bought the land and it eventually came to the Village via a CRA agreement.

New Business:

Jon talked with Mark about the baseball fields. Mark will get with the Village later this week. We will provide what we can to help them.

Discussed the bleachers – the Village has no requirements on how to change the bleachers. Mark will check on the rules regarding number of levels and need for a back.

Rhoads asked about trees – there are still two trees close to the road and right behind the backstop of Lions field – will these be tagged for removal? Jon said we need to hash this out as time goes by. There are still trees that need attention. The ones removed were done for safety. We need a stump grinder to finish the job.

The Village needs to evaluate the trees. Perhaps we can discuss this with the Forrester when a contract is signed.

The tree by the second field – there is a hanging branch. The BOPA bucket truck is needed to remove that branch, put up the flag, and paint the pole. Jon will address this later in the season.

What happened to the park slide? It will be recycled.

Schwartz reported that Parks used \$27.25 in electric through the first quarter. The building next to the salt storage building is the one that will be charged to Parks.

Schwartz shared she has had more than 10 people say they are pleased with the work done on Red Oak. The work done by the Parks is much appreciated. Great job! Jon feels that clean up will also help the mosquito problem.

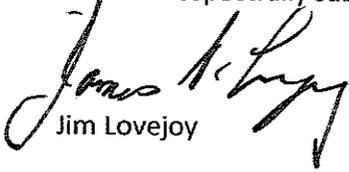
Discussion of whether to leave the fences as is on the Red Oak parcel- one lake has a fence the other doesn't. The deepest pond has no fence – it was removed. The one that is fenced shelters wild life that nests. Committee agreed to leave as is for now. Should be no different than Leohr Park not being fenced.

Mike Landis, Mathew 25, sponsors 5K Run for Fun raise funds to help those folks who aren't eligible for aid from other sources. The Mathew 25 organization provides a quick hand up to those who need some help in a tough spot. The race starts around 7 AM; done around 10 or 10:30 AM. The event works well with Farmers Market – after the race people shop.

Meeting Adjourned – No time given.

An audio of this meeting is on record and can be requested.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:


Jim Lovejoy